

Message Text

SECRET

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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 060401

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PEPR, PGOV, PSDC, TU

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT

REF: ANKARA 1760

IN RESPONSE ECEVIT MESSAGE (REFTEL) PLEASE CONVEY SOONEST
FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT FROM THE
SECRETARY:

BEGIN TEXT:

(A) I VALUED RECEIVING THE MESSAGE WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER

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OKCUN CONVEYED TO AMBASSADOR SPIERS MARCH 8. I APPRECIATE
YOUR FRANKNESS AND SHALL BE EQUALLY CANDID.

(B) I TOO HAVE BEEN HEARTENED BY THE EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT
WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN WHO
FAVOR AN EARLY AND FULL RESTORATION OF A SOUND US-TURKISH
RELATIONSHIP.

(C) TO SECURE SUCH A SATISFACTORY RESULT I MUST STATE TO YOU DIRECTLY OUR VIEW THAT THE RIGHT TIME TO TAKE A POSITION AND MAKE IT PUBLIC IS NOT NOW OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOUR MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS BUT RATHER AT THE TIME THE APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE TAKES UP OUR

SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR TURKEY AND GREECE. AS YOU KNOW THIS IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR EARLY APRIL. I REALIZE THAT COUNSELOR NIMETZ, WHEN HE WAS IN ANKARA, INDICATED THAT HE ANTICIPATED HEARINGS IN MID-MARCH, BUT AS YOU KNOW THE SCHEDULING OF CONGRESSIONAL BUSINESS IS DECIDED BY THE LEADERS OF THE CONGRESS TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE ENTIRE RANGE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. I KNOW THAT COUNSELOR NIMETZ ALSO EXPLAINED TO YOU THE REALITIES OF THE CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION AND OUR BELIEF THAT FORTHCOMING TURKISH PROPOSALS ON CYPRUS--WHICH I RECOGNIZE ARE UNDER PREPARATION--WILL BE A CRITICAL ELEMENT IN THE EYES OF MANY.

(D) I CAN ASSURE YOU ONCE AGAIN THAT THE UNITED STATES DEEPLY VALUES ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH TURKEY AND THIS ADMINISTRATION SINCERELY AND EARNESTLY WANTS TO SEE A FULL AND TOTAL RESTORATION OF OUR TIES.

(E) THE PRESIDENT AND I HAVE BEEN DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY YOUR DETERMINATION TO SOLVE TURKEY'S PROBLEMS WITH GREECE, TO
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ACHIEVE REAL MOVEMENT ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, TO DEVELOP A SOUNDER AND BROADER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. AND WESTERN EUROPE, AND TO COME TO GRIPS WITH WHAT WE RECOGNIZE IS AN ARRAY OF SERIOUS ECONOMIC AND OTHER PROBLEMS. WE WISH YOU WELL IN THESE ENDEAVORS.

(F) WE SHARE YOUR HOPE THAT GOOD RESULTS MAY BE OBTAINED AT MONTREUX AND THAT THE DIALOGUE CAN BE CONTINUED IN THE FUTURE. WE THINK THAT THE BEST CONTRIBUTION WE CAN MAKE TO FAVORABLE RESULTS AT MONTREUX IS TO MAINTAIN A CONSTANT LOW-KEY, SUPPORTIVE POSITION--SUPPORTIVE OF TWO VALUED FRIENDS AND ALLIES--RATHER THAN MAKING NEW PRONOUNCEMENTS ON THE EVE OF THAT IMPORTANT MEETING.

(G) I WILL BE MOST INTERESTED IN HEARING YOUR ASSESSMENT OF YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS. AS I HAVE INDICATED BEFORE, I AM NOW PERSONALLY VERY HOPEFUL THAT A NEW ATMOSPHERE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO MOVE AHEAD ON THESE PROBLEMS. SINCERELY, CYRUS VANCE. END TEXT. VANCE

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